

December 13.

[Having received the following intelligence from the Southern Mail, we haste to lay it thus early before our readers.]

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 8.

This day at 12 o'clock, the president of the United States met both houses of congress in the representatives chamber, and delivered the following

S P E E C H :

Gentlemen of the senate, and
Gentlemen of the house of representatives,

WHILE with reverence and resignation we contemplate the dispensations of Divine Providence, in the alarming and destructive pestilence with which several of our cities and towns have been visited, there is cause for gratitude and mutual congratulations, that the malady has disappeared, and that we are again permitted to assemble in safety at the seat of government, for the discharge of our important duties. But when we reflect that this fatal disorder has, within a few years, made repeated ravages in some of our principal ports, and with increased malignancy, and when we consider the magnitude of the evils arising from the interruption of the public and private business, whereby the national interests are deeply affected—I think it my duty to invite the legislature of the union to examine the expediency of establishing suitable regulations in aid of the health laws of the respective states; for these being founded on the idea that contagious sickness may be communicated through the channels of commerce, there seems to be a necessity that congress, who alone can regulate trade, should frame a system, which, while it may tend to preserve the general health, may be compatible with the interests of commerce, and the safety of the revenue.

While we think on this calamity, and sympathize with the immediate sufferers, we have abundant reason to present to the Supreme Being our annual oblations of gratitude, for a liberal participation in the ordinary blessings of his providence. To the usual subjects of gratitude, I cannot omit to add one of the first importance to our well-being and safety: I mean the spirit which has arisen in our country against the invasions and aggression of a foreign nation.—A manly sense of national honor, dignity, and independence, has appeared, which, if encouraged and invigorated by every branch of the government, will enable us to view, undimmed, the enterprises of any foreign power, and become the sure foundation of national prosperity and glory.

The course of the transactions in relation to the United States and France, which have come to my knowledge during your recess, will be made the subject of a future communication. The communication will confirm the ultimate failure of the measures which have been taken by the government of the United States, towards an amicable adjustment of differences with that power. You will at the same time perceive, that the French government appears solicitous to impress the opinion, that it is averse to a rupture with this country, and that it has in a qualified manner, declared itself willing to receive a minister from the United States for the purpose of restoring a good understanding. It is unfortunate for professions of this kind, that they should be expressed in terms which may countenance the inadmissible pretension of a right to prescribe the qualifications which a minister from the United States should possess, and that while France is asserting the existence of a disposition on her part to conciliate with sincerity the differences which have arisen, the sincerity of a like disposition on the part of the United States, of which so many demonstrative proofs have been given, should even be indirectly questioned. It is also worthy of observation that the decree of the directory alleged to be intended to refrain the depredations of French cruisers on our commerce, has not given and cannot give any relief: it enjoins them to conform to all the laws of France relative to cruising and prizes, while these laws are themselves the sources of the depredations of which we have so long, so justly and so fruitlessly complained.

The law of France enacted in January last, which subjects to capture and condemnation neutral vessels and their cargoes, if any portion of the latter are of British fabric or produce, although the entire property belongs to neutrals, instead of being rescinded, has lately received a confirmation, by the failure of a proposition for its repeal. While this law, which is an unequivocal act of war on the commerce of the nations it attacks, continues in force, those nations can see in the French government only a power

regardless of their essential rights, of their independence and sovereignty; and if they possess the means, they can reconcile nothing with their interest and honor, but a firm resistance.

Hitherto, therefore, nothing is discoverable in the conduct of France, which ought to change or relax our measures of defence; on the contrary, to extend and invigorate them is our true policy. We have no reason to regret that these measures have been thus far adopted and pursued: and in proportion as we enlarge our view of the portentous and incalculable situation of Europe, we shall discover new and cogent motives for the full development of our energies and resources.

But in demonstrating by our conduct that we do not fear war, in the necessary protection of our rights and honor, we shall give no room to infer that we abandon the desire of peace. An efficient preparation for war can alone ensure peace. It is peace that we have uniformly and perseveringly cultivated, and harmony between us and France may be restored at her option. But to send another minister, without more determined assurances that he would be received, would be an act of humiliation to which the United States ought not to submit. It must therefore be left to France, if indeed she is desirous of accommodation, to take the requisite steps. The U. States will steadily observe the maxims by which they have hitherto governed. They will respect the sacred rights of embassy. And with a sincere disposition on the part of France to desist from hostility, to make reparation for injuries heretofore inflicted on our commerce, and to do justice in future, there will be no obstacle to the restoration of a friendly intercourse. In making to you this declaration, I give a pledge to France and to the world, that the executive authority of this country shall adhere to the humane and pacific policy, which has invariably governed its proceedings, in conformity with the wishes of the other branches of the government and of the people of the United States. But considering the late manifestations of her policy towards foreign nations, I deem it a duty deliberately and solemnly to declare my opinion, that whether we negotiate with her or not, vigorous preparations for war will be alike indispensable. These alone will give to us an equal treaty and insure its observance.

Among the measures of preparation, which appear expedient, I take the liberty to recall your attention to the naval armament. The beneficial effects of the small naval armament, provided under the acts of the last session, are known and acknowledged. Perhaps no country ever experienced more sudden and remarkable advantages from any measure of policy, than we have derived from the arming for our maritime protection and defence. We ought, without loss of time, to lay the foundation for an increase of our navy to a size sufficient to guard our coast, and protect our trade. Such a naval force, as it is doubtless in the power of the United States to create and maintain, would also afford the best means of general defence, by facilitating the safe transportation of troops and stores to every part of our extensive coast. To accomplish this important object, a prudent foresight requires that systematic measures be adopted for procuring at all times, the requisite timber and other supplies. In what manner this shall be done I leave to your considerations.

I will now advert, gentlemen, to some matters of less moment, but proper to be communicated to the national legislature.

After the Spanish garrisons had evacuated the posts they occupied at the Natchez and Walnut Hills, the commissioner of the United States commenced his observations, to ascertain the point near the Mississippi, which terminated the northernmost part of the thirty first degree of north latitude. From thence he proceeded to run the boundary line between the United States and Spain. He was afterwards joined by the Spanish commissioner when the work of the former was confirmed; and they proceeded together to the demarkation of the line.—Recent information renders it probable that the Southern Indians either intimidated to oppose the demarkation, or jealous of the consequences of suffering white people to run a line over the lands, to which the Indian title had not been extinguished, have, ere this time, stopped the progress of the commissioners. And considering the mischief which may result from continuing the demarkation, in opposition to the will of the Indian tribes, the great expense attending it, and that the boundaries which the commissioners have actually established, probably extend at least as far as the Indian title has been extinguished, it will perhaps become

expedient and necessary to suspend further proceedings by recalling our commissioners.

The commissioners appointed in pursuance to the fifth article of the treaty of amity, commerce and navigation, between the United States and his Britannic majesty, to determine what river was truly intended under the name of the river St. Croix, mentioned in the treaty of peace, and forming a part of the boundary therein described, have finally decided that question. On the twenty-fifth of October, they made their declaration that a river called Scodiac, which falls into Passamaquoddy Bay, at its north-western quarter, was the true St. Croix intended in the treaty of peace, as far as its great fork, where one of its streams comes from the west ward, and the other from the northward, and that the latter stream is the continuation of the St. Croix to its source. This decision, if it is understood, will preclude all contention among individual claimants, as it seems that the Scodiac and its northern branch bound the grants of lands which have been made by the respective adjoining governments.—A subordinate question however, has been suggested, it still remains to be determined. Between the mouth of the St. Croix, as now settled, and what is usually called the Bay of Fundy, lie a number of valuable islands. The commissioners have not continued the boundary lines through any channel of these islands, and unless the Bay of Passamaquoddy be a part of the Bay of Fundy, this further adjustment of boundary will be necessary. But it is apprehended that this will not be a matter of any difficulty.

Such progress has been made in the examination and decision of cases, of captures and condemnation of American vessels which were the subject of the seventh article of the treaty of amity, commerce and navigation, between the United States and Great Britain—that it is supposed the commissioners will be able to bring their business to a conclusion, in August of the ensuing year.

The commissioners acting under the twenty-fifth article of the treaty between the United States and Spain, have adjusted most of the claims of our citizens, for losses sustained in consequence of their vessels and cargoes having been taken by the subjects of his Catholic majesty, during the late war between France and Spain.

Various circumstances have concurred to delay the execution of the law for augmenting the military establishment. Among these, the desire of obtaining the fullest information to direct the best selection of officers. As this object will now be speedily accomplished, it is expected that the raising and organizing of the troops will proceed without obstacle and with effect.

Gentlemen of the house of representatives,

I have directed an estimate of the appropriations which will be necessary for the service of the ensuing year, to be laid before you, accompanied with a view of the public receipts and expenditures to a recent period. It will afford you satisfaction to infer the great extent and solidity of the public resources from the prosperous state of the finances, notwithstanding the unexampled embarrassments which have attended commerce. When you reflect on the conspicuous examples of patriotism and liberality, which have been exhibited by our mercantile fellow-citizens, and how great a proportion of the public resources depends on their enterprise, you will naturally consider whether their convenience cannot be promoted and reconciled with the security of their revenue by a revision of the system by which the collection is at present regulated.

During your recess, measures have been steadily pursued for effecting the valuations and returns, directed by the act of the last session, preliminary to the assessment and collection of a direct tax.—No other delays or obstacles have been experienced, except such as were expected to arise from the great extent of our country, and the magnitude and novelty of the operation, and enough has been accomplished to assure a fulfilment of the views of the legislature.

Gentlemen of the senate, and

Gentlemen of the house of representatives,

I cannot close this address, without once more adverting to our political situation and inculcating the essential importance of uniting in the maintenance of our dearest interests; and I trust, that by the temper and wisdom of your proceedings, and by a harmony of measures, we shall secure to our country that weight and respect, to which it is so justly entitled.

JOHN ADAMS.

The senate in a body waited upon the president of the United States this morning, with the following answer to his speech at the opening of the session.

To the president of the United States.

SIR,

The senate of the United States join you in thanks to the Almighty God, for the removal of the late afflicting dispensations of his providence,—and for the patriotic spirit, and general prosperity of our country. Sympathy for the sufferings of our fellow-citizens from diseases, and the important interests of the union, demand of the national legislature a ready co-operation with the state governments, in the use of such means as seem best calculated to prevent the return of this fatal calamity.

Although we have sincerely wished that an adjustment of our differences with the republic of France might be effected on safe and honorable terms, yet the information you have given us of the ultimate failure of the negotiation has not surprised us. In the general conduct of that republic we have seen a design of universal influence incompatible with the self government, and destructive to the independence of other states. In its conduct towards these U. States we have seen a plan of hostility pursued with unremitted constancy, equally disregarding the obligation of treaties, and the rights of individuals. We have seen two embassies formed for the purpose of mutual explanations, and clothed with the most extensive and liberal powers, dimitted without recognition, and even without a hearing. The government of France has not only refused to repeal, but has recently enjoined the observance of its former edict respecting merchandise of British fabric or produce, the property of neutrals by which the interruption of our lawful commerce, and the spoliation of the property of our citizens, have again received a public sanction. These facts indicate no change of system or disposition; they speak a more intelligible language than professions of solicitude, to avoid a rupture however ardently made. But if, after the repeated proofs we have given of a sincere desire for peace, these professions should be accompanied by insinuations implicating the integrity with which it has been pursued, if neglecting and passing by the constitutional and authorized agents of the government they are made through the medium of individuals without public character or authority—and above all if they carry with them a right to prescribe the political qualifications of the minister of the United States to be employed in the negotiation, they are not entitled to attention or consideration, but ought to be regarded as designed to separate the people from their government, and to bring about by intrigue that which open force could not effect.

We are of opinion with you, sir, that there has nothing yet been discovered in the conduct of France, which can justify a relaxation of the means of defence adopted during the last session of congress, the happy result of which is so strongly and generally marked.—If the force by sea and land which the existing laws authorize, should be judged inadequate to the public defence, we will perform the indispensable duty of bringing forward such other aids as will effectually call forth the resources and force of our country.

A steady adherence to this wise and manly policy, a proper direction of the noble spirit of patriotism which has arisen in our country, and which ought to be cherished and invigorated by every branch of the government, will secure our liberty and independence against all open and secret attacks.

We enter on the business of the present session with an anxious solicitude for the public good, and shall bestow that consideration on the several objects pointed out in your communication which they respectively merit.

Your long and uninterrupted services, your talents and firmness, in often displayed in the most trying times, and most critical situations, afford a sure pledge of a zealous co-operation in every measure necessary to secure justice and respect.

THE PRESIDENT'S REPLY.

To the senate of the United States.

GENTLEMEN,

I thank you for this address, so conformable to the spirit of our constitution, and the established character of the senate of the United States, for wisdom and honor and virtue.

I have seen no real evidence of any change of system or disposition in the French republic, towards the United States.

Although the officious interference of individuals, without public character or authority, is not entitled to any credit, yet it deserves to be considered, whether that temerity and impertinence of individuals, affecting to interfere in public affairs, between France and the United States whether by their secret correspondence, or otherwise, and intended to impose upon the people, & separate them from their government, ought not to be enquired into and corrected.

I thank you, gentlemen, for your assurances that you will bestow that consideration on the several objects, pointed out in my communication, which they respectfully merit.

If I have participated in that understanding, sincerity and confidence, which have been displayed by my fellow-citizens and country-men, in the most trying times and critical situations, and fulfilled my duties to them, I am happy. The testimony of the senate of the United States, in my favour, is an high and honorable reward, which receives, as it merits, my grateful acknowledgements. My zealous co-operation, in measures necessary to secure us justice and consideration, may always be depended on.

JOHN ADAMS.

Philadelphia, Dec. 12, 1798.

DECEMBER 14.

The following answer to the president's speech was agreed upon without debate, this morning in the house of representatives:

To John Adams, president of the U. States.

SIR,

The house of representatives unite with you in deploring the effects of the deflating malady by which the seat of government and other parts of the country, have recently been visited. In calling our attention to the fatality of its repeated ravages, and inviting us to consider the expediency of exercising our constitutional powers in aid of the health laws of the respective states, your recommendation is sanctioned by the dictates of humanity and liberal policy. On this interesting subject we feel the necessity of adopting every wise expedient for preventing a calamity so distressing to individual sufferers, and so prejudicial to our national commerce.

That our finances are in a prosperous state, notwithstanding the commercial derangements resulting from this calamity, and from external embarrassments, is a satisfactory manifestation of the great extent and solidity of the public resources. Connected with this situation of our fiscal concerns, the assurance that the legal provisions for obtaining revenue by direct taxation will fulfil the views of the legislature, is peculiarly acceptable.

Desirous as we are that all causes of hostility may be removed by the amicable adjustment of national differences, we learn with satisfaction, that, in pursuance of our treaties with Spain and Great Britain, advances have been made for definitively settling the controversies relative to the southern and the north-eastern limits of the United States. With similar sentiments we have received your information that the proceedings under commissions, authorized by the same treaties, afford to a respectable portion of our citizens, the prospect of a final decision on their claims for maritime injuries committed by subjects of those powers.

It would be the theme of mutual felicitations, were we assured of experiencing similar moderation and justice from the French republic, between which and the United States differences have unhappily arisen. But this is denied us by the ultimate failure of the measures which have been taken by this government towards an amicable adjustment of those differences, and by the various inadmissible pretensions on the part of that nation.

The continuing in force the decree of January last, to which you have more particularly pointed our attention, ought, of itself, to be considered as demonstrative of the real intentions of the French government—that that decree proclaims a predatory warfare against the unquestionable rights of neutral commerce; which, with our means of defence, our interest and our honour command us to repel. It, therefore, now becomes the United States to be as determined in resistance as they have been patient in suffering, and condescending in negotiation.

While those who direct the affairs of France persist in the enforcement of decrees so hostile to our essential rights, their conduct forbids us to consider in any of their professions of amity.

At therefore the conduct of France hitherto exhibits nothing which ought to change or relax our measures of defence, the policy of extending and invigorating those measures, demands our sedulous attention. The sudden and remarkable advantages which this country has experienced from a small naval armament, sufficiently prove the utility of its establishment. As it respects the guarding of our coast, the protection of our trade, and the facility and safety of transporting the means of territorial defence to every part of our maritime frontier, an adequate naval force must be considered as an important object of national policy. Nor do we hesitate to adopt the opinion, that, whether negotiations with France are resumed or not, vigorous preparations for war will be alike indispensable.

In this conjuncture of affairs, while with you we recognize our abundant cause of gratitude to the Supreme Disposer of events for the ordinary blessings of Providence, we regard, as of high national importance the manifestation in our country, of a magnanimous spirit of resistance to foreign domination. This spirit merits to be cherished and invigorated by every branch of government, as the inalienable pledge of national property and glory.

Disdaining a reliance on foreign protection; wanting no foreign guarantee of our liberties; refusing to maintain our national independence against every attempt to despoil us of this inestimable treasure: we confide, under Providence, in the patriotism and energies of the people of these United States for defeating the hostile enterprises of any foreign power.

To adopt with prudent foresight such systematical measures as may be expedient for calling forth those energies wherever the national exigencies may require, whether on the ocean or on our own territory—and to reconcile with the proper fear of revenue, the convenience of mercantile enterprise, on which so great a portion of the public resources depends—are objects of moment, which shall be duly regarded in the course of our deliberations.

Fully as we accord with you in opinion, that the United States ought not to submit to the humiliation of sending another minister to France, without previous assurances sufficiently determinate that he will be duly accredited, we have heard, with cordial approbation, the declaration of your purpose, steadily to observe those maxims of humane and pacific policy by which the United States have hitherto been governed. While it is left with France to take the requisite steps for accommodation, it is worthy the chief magistracy of a free people, to make known to the world, that justice on the part of France will annihilate every obstacle to the restoration of a friendly intercourse, and that the executive authority of this country will respect the sacred rights of embassy. At the same time, the wisdom and decision which have characterized your past administration, assures us that no illusive professions will seduce you into any abandonment of rights which belong to the United States, as a free and independent nation.

THE PRESIDENT'S REPLY.

To the House of Representatives of the United States.

Gentlemen,

My sincere acknowledgments are due to the house of representatives for this excellent address so consonant to the character of representatives of a great and free people. The judgment and feelings of a nation, I believe, were never more fully expressed by their representatives, than those of our constituents by their decided declaration that with our means of defence, our interest and honour command us to repel a predatory warfare against the unquestionable rights of neutral commerce. That it becomes the United States to be as determined in resistance as they have been patient in suffering, and condescending in negotiation. That while those who direct the affairs of France, persist in the enforcement of decrees so hostile to our essential rights, their conduct forbids us to confide in any of their professions of amity. That an adequate naval force must be considered as an important object of national policy, and that whatever negotiations with France are resumed or not, vigorous preparations for war will be alike indispensable.

The generous disdain you so coolly and deliberately express, of a reliance on foreign protection, wanting no foreign guarantee of our liberties, refusing to maintain our national independence, against every attempt to despoil us of that inestimable treasure, will meet the full approbation of every sound understanding, and exulting applause from the heart of every faithful American.

I thank you, gentlemen, for your candid approbation of my sentiments on the subject of negotiation, and for the declaration of your opinion that the policy of extending and invigorating our measures of defence, and adoption with prudent foresight of such systematical measures as may be expedient for calling forth the energies of our country, wherever the national exigencies may require, whether on the ocean or on our own territory, will demand your most sedulous attention.

At the same time I take the liberty to assure you, it shall be my vigilant endeavor that no illusive professions shall seduce me into any abandonment of the rights which belong to the U. States as a free and independent nation.

JOHN ADAMS.

United States,
Dec. 14.

RICHMOND, December 25.

EXTRACT,
From the Journals of the house delegates of this commonwealth.

FRIDAY, December 21, 1798.

The house according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole house on the state of the constitution, and after some time spent

therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair and Mr. Breckinridge reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration and had come to a resolution, thereupon as follows.

RESOLVED, That the general assembly of Virginia doth unequivocally express a firm resolution to maintain and defend the constitution of the United States, and the constitution of this state against every aggression, either foreign or domestic, and that they will support the government of the United States in all measures warranted by the former.

That this assembly doth solemnly declares a warm attachment to the union of the States, to maintain which, it pledges all its powers; and that for this end it is their duty, to watch over and oppose every intraction of those principles, which constitute the only basis of that union, because a faithful observance of them, can alone secure its existence and the public happiness.

That this assembly doth explicitly and peremptorily declare, that it views the powers of the federal government, as resulting from the compact to which the States alone are parties: as limited by the plain sense and intention of the instrument constituting that compact; as no farther valid than they are authorized by the grants enumerated in that compact, and that in case of a deliberate, palpable and dangerous exercise of other powers not granted by the said compact, the States who are parties thereto have the right, and are in duty bound, to interpose for arresting the progress of the evil, and for maintaining within their respective limits, the authorities, rights and liberties appertaining to them.

That the general assembly doth also express its deep regret, that a spirit has in sundry instances, been manifested by the federal government, to enlarge its powers by forced constructions of the constitutional charter which defines them; and that indications have appeared of a design to expound certain general phrases (which having been copied from the very limited grant of powers in the former articles of confederation, were the less liable to be misconstrued) so as to destroy the meaning and effect of the particular enumeration, which necessarily explains and limits the general phrases; and so as to consolidate the States by degrees in to one sovereignty, the obvious tendency and inevitable result of which would be, to transform the present republican system of the United States, into an absolute, or at best, a mixed monarchy.

That the general assembly doth particularly protest against the palpable and alarming infractions of the constitution, in the two late cases of the "alien and sedition acts," passed at the last session of congress; the first of which exercises a power no where delegated to the federal government; and which by uniting legislative and judicial powers to those of executive, subverts the general principles of free government, as well as the particular organization and positive provisions of the federal constitution; and the other of which acts, exercises in like manner a power not delegated by the constitution, but on the contrary expressly and positively forbidden by one of the amendments thereto; a power, which more than any other, ought to produce universal alarm, because it is levelled against that right of freely examining public characters and measures, and of free communication among the people thereon, which has ever been justly deemed the only effectual guardian of every other right.

That this state having by its convention which ratified the federal constitution, expressly declared "that among other essential rights" "liberty of conscience and of the press" cannot be cancelled, abridged, restrained or modified by any authority of the United States," and from its extreme anxiety to guard these rights from every possible attack of sophistry or ambition, having with other States recommended an amendment for that purpose, which amendment was in due time annexed to the constitution, it would mark a reproachful inconsistency and criminal degeneracy, if an indifference were now shown to the most palpable violation of one of the rights thus declared and secured, and to the establishment of a precedent which may be fatal to the other.

That the good people of this commonwealth having ever felt, and continuing to feel the most sincere affec-

on to their brethren of the other States, the truest anxiety for establishing and perpetuating the union of all, and the most scrupulous fidelity to that constitution which is the pledge of mutual friendship, and the instrument of mutual happiness, the general assembly doth solemnly appeal to the like dispositions of the other States, in confidence that they will concur with this commonwealth in declaring, as it does hereby declare, that the acts aforesaid are unconstitutional and that the necessary and proper measures will be taken by each, for co-operating with this State, in maintaining unimpaired the authorities, rights and liberties reserved to the States respectively or to the people.

That the governor be desired to transmit a copy of the foregoing resolutions to the executive authority of each of the other States, with a request, that the same may be communicated to the legislature thereof.

And that a copy be furnished to each of the senators and representatives representing this State in the congress of the United States.

After several proposed amendments which were negatived to the main question being put, that the house do agree with the committee of the whole house in the resolution as reported—

"It passed in the affirmative. Ayes 100. Noes 63."

The above resolutions passed the senate yesterday—Ayes—Meliss. Taylor, Kennon, Basset, Royser, Stuart, Carrington, Strother, Holmes, Preston, Hoomes, Temple, Newton, and Penn, 14.—Noes—Meliss. Payton, Haymond, and Eyre—3

Irish Rebels not defeated yet!

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 14.

INTERESTING—IF TRUE.

FROM THE AURORA.

A letter received by way of New York by a gentleman in Philadelphia, from Banbridge in the county of Down, Ireland, dated the 11th Oct. says that the whole of that island was at that time in a general convulsion. The important and strong position of Derry, had been taken from the British by a most daring and well executed enterprise, but with the loss of a great many lives. The British and another squadron had landed eleven thousand men in different parts of the west and north. The Irish were regularly embodied and their right wing covered Derry, which was made the grand depot and head quarters; the left wing marched against Carrickfergus, where the people had already formed a voluntary army and cut off all supplies from the English garrison. The letter further adds, that general Lake had been defeated in three several actions, and that the Irish rebels were carrying every thing before them, in consequence of the distraction which the universality of the rising had occasioned. Several of the nobility had been made prisoners, with two general officers, who were taken care of in the court-house of Derry, and are to be kept as hostages.

A second letter of the same date from Ballinacorney, corroborates the above particulars, but says that Carrickfergus had been already taken possession of by the people, and that the English troops were flying in a very disorganized state in every direction. Belfast was expected to be in the hands of the revolutionists on the 15th of October. A great part of the English fugitives had fled towards Dublin, where it was expected a last and decisive stand would be made.

December 15.

The accounts published in the Aurora of yesterday, from Ireland, have been questioned, and ingenuity has been led to presume that the news was calculated merely to operate on the price of flaxseed. We can thus far assert, that the first letter was from a father to his son, now in this city, and that the same letter contains an account of the death of two other of the writer's sons in the action described—upon the authority we have published from, we place the most perfect reliance.

A gentleman just arrived from Lisbon informs, that when he sailed, which was on the 20th of October, the news was, that Buonaparte was completely routed, and that there was every reason to hope he and his army would be very soon annihilated.

By the treaty of subsidy concluded with England, says a Paris paper, Russia has engaged to furnish her with 50,000 men, who are not to be employed but in Europe.